1908]

CURRENT I.ITERATURE

Sceptrum Carolinum dicta, quam * * * praeside Laurentio Robergio * * * ventilandam sistit auctor Johannes Olavus Rudbeck Ol. Fil. * * * 1731. After mentioning the original edition of the respective works, subsequent editions, reissues, and translations are accurately recorded; and in each instance the usual information is given as to place and time of publication, as well as the form, number of pages of text and index, and other details. In those works consisting of more than one volume the subjects treated in each volume and the number of pages devoted to each subject are indicated briefly in tabulated form. Reference is also made to contemporary notices and reviews.

The volume is amply provided with cross-references, and the subject-matter on the pages is well differentiated by judicious spacing and a careful selection of type, thus making the work attractive in appearance and of easy reference. Several facsimile reproductions of title-pages and frontispieces of the rarer Linnaean works are appended, which add to the interest of the volume. It is a book which will serve as a most useful guide to the Linnaean literature.—J. M. GREENMAN.

The flora of Styria.—Von HAYEK⁵ has begun a systematic treatment of the ferns and flowering plants of Styria. The first number of this work contains a key to the main groups and sub-groups, which are clearly defined, and a second key leading directly to the families. The enumeration of species follows a natural sequence, beginning with *Ophioglossum vulgatum* L. and continuing through the three parts to *Chenopodium album* L. A concise description of each species is given in German, and associated with it one finds a fairly complete synonomy and bibliography. Careful attention has been given to habitat and distribution. Text figures are introduced to illustrate certain groups, but the illustrations lack clearness and detail. The nomenclature is in accordance with the Vienna Rules adopted at the last International Botanical Congress.

On the whole the work thus far happily combines a semipopular presentation and a degree of scientific accuracy which will make it useful to the local botanist and to the general systematist.—J. M. GREENMAN.

Flowering plants and ferns.—Under this title WILLIS published the first edition of his manual and dictionary in 1897. A second edition appeared in 1904, and now a third⁶ has come to hand. The purpose of the book is "to supply, within a reasonable compass, a summary of useful and scientific information about the plants met with in a botanical garden or museum, or in the field." The result is a very convenient book of reference. The first part presents an

⁵ VON HAYEK, AUGUST, Flora von Steiermark. Eine systematische Bearbeitung der im Herzogtum Steiermark wildwachsenden oder im Grossen gebauten Farn- und Blütenpflanzen nebst einer pflanzengeographischen Schilderung des Landes. Vol. I.

